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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1905.

Castritis.

There is again a tempest in the Venezuelan teapot. The specific heat of the country is so great and the specific gravity of the illipitium who sits upon its lid is so little that its foreign impolicy has for years varied from hisses of defiance to ebullitions of scalding Castritis.

This is annoying, but not necessarily deadly. Castro, like the mosquito, is to be feared not so much for the sting of his bite as for the noxious germs with which he may inoculate one. It would be silly to hunt him with a shotgun or a butterfly net, for he is so small that he could escape the one and elude the other, but what we need in dealing with him is a mosquito-bar and a bunch of penny-royal.

While this is true; while it is true that Castro, viewing himself in the concave mirror of his own conceit, struts and blusters like any Don Whiskerando of opera bouffe; it is also true that the American Gulliver owes it to his innate love of fair play and his avowed devotion to international justice to recognize that the little man is still a human being and his country a cadet of the family of civilized nations.

Castro's manners may be bad, his etiquette not quite up to standard, and his sense of proportion sadly deficient, but he has some glimmerings of reason and a show of truth and equity on his side.

Venezuela has all the outward pomp and circumstance of a civilized power, she has courts of first instance and of appeal, she has bureaus of internal administration and foreign communication, she has a policy of orderly development and a scheme of local independence. All these things have been recognized by the various powers and she has been dealt with on the basis thereof in sundry treaties and arbitrations.

The merchants, bankers, syndicates, and corporations of the world knew what they were doing when they undertook the promotion of their various enterprises in Venezuela. It is to be presumed that as sensible men they examined the credit and considered the character of the people with whom they dealt, and having made their bed they should be allowed to lie in it until actual and gross injustice is done.

The United States has no quarrel with Venezuela of a national or governmental character, nor need it disturb its repose over the possibility of foreign complications by reason of some European power treading on the coat-tails of the Monroe Doctrine. The trouble is at present simply and solely a question of whether certain financial interests, not in any way connected with our Government or our national dignity, shall have their claims settled by the Venezuelan courts or by a board of arbitration forced upon the weaker country either by an overpowering influence or by our sword.

It is hardly worth while to carry the discussion further. Surely we would not attempt to dictate to the English high court of judicature or to the French court of cassation. Why then should we attempt to wrest a pending case from the courts of Venezuela?

We have bluffed Master Castro as far as the rules of the game permit—and he has called our bluff. We are in the ridiculous position of hunters armed for big game who having been annoyed by a crowd of small boys find one of them up a tree and twiddling his nose at us. We are strong enough to chop the tree down and we have powder and shot enough to blow the boy to kingdom come. But it is wiser and better to smoke a pipe of peace and go about our business.

Some other day we may spank the impudent little cuss.

Harmonious Democrats.

Hope springs eternal in the yearning heart of the true Democrat. It is his most evident possession. Conditions may change, leaders may go into voluntary retirement or be sent to a back seat by the people on election day, and lots of such developments may come and go, but effervescent hope still remains. How different is hope from harmony!

Fresh evidence of this fact comes to light in the preparations for the Jefferson's Birthday dinner of the Parker and Davis survivors of the late election catastrophe, who plan to have a party love-feast tomorrow night at the Waldorf-Astoria in the metropolis. Everyone has been filled with the most cheerful optimism over the prospects of a harmonious gathering and the thought of hearing sound speeches from such party leaders as Alton B. Parker and Senators Carmack and Newlands had given the

banquet great vogue among the metropolitan machine workers. But now comes the news that the two Senators will be unable to attend the banquet and that Judge Parker so bubbles over with trenchant views and ideas struggling to be born from his expansive brain that he cannot keep within the twenty-minute limit put upon the speakers in general. Thirty-five minutes at the outside was then suggested to his representative, but the late candidate calmly replies that he cannot begin to give his views in less than two hours!

The Esopian's speech would fill an entire page of a newspaper, at this rate. Then he might want to interpolate a few additional thoughts when he sees the cheering banquets and hears the flowing language of the other speakers. He might also be asked some questions which would require cautious and judicial treatment, adding thereby an hour or two additional to the running time of the banquet. There are all these possibilities and more, if one recalls the explosiveness which characterized the judicial candidate in the closing days of the late campaign, and which, like hope, may spring up again as easily under little provocation.

So there is trouble in the ranks of the high and mighty of the rejuvenated Democrats. The two national Senators feel that they are some pumpkins too, and so declined to be relegated to the end of the program after a two-hour-or-more speech from anybody whomsoever. This has given fresh opportunity for action by the professional harmonizers and the dear public will have to wait only a day or so longer to learn the result of their latest efforts.

Marrying by Eyes.

Man has an unconscious tendency to select a wife of his own height, with eyes of his own color, a proportionate span from forehead to forehead, a forearm corresponding to his own, and a constitution of like physical vigor.

This is the theory advanced by a distinguished foreign professor, Dr. Karl Pearson, of University College, London. He is quite confident that he knows, because he has made enough investigations to base upon them a theory applicable to the entire race of humans.

Such a theory of unconscious determination and selection runs counter, of course, to another strongly advanced idea on the subject. It stands in opposition to the Darwinian idea that men and women depend upon their perceptive and intellectual faculties in choosing and consenting to being chosen by "the right one in all the world." But Prof. Pearson is not deterred from the pursuit of his investigations by the mere fact that some previous savant had taken another ground on which to base his scientific deductions. Listen to some more of his discoveries:

Blue eyes predominate among men, 363 out of each 1,000, while there are only 286 such mild-orbed women in another like total. The rest of the thousand "mere men" are divided into 312 with green eyes—perhaps not all of them of an envious and jealous disposition, however—127 with hazel eyes, and only 94 with brown eyes. What an unusual honor it is, indeed, for the brown-eyed masculine. He is one in a dozen! It would be interesting to know, further, whether the savant draws from this fact the conclusion that these 94 are thereby the leaven which lightens the 1,000 lump.

"If these blue-eyed people married at random," significantly and authoritatively comments the professor, "the result would be that they would mate at the rate of 104 per thousand. But the actual number of marriages per thousand of blue-eyed persons is 140, or 36 above the random average, thus proving that the blue-eyed man and the blue-eyed woman are unconsciously attracted toward one another." He also soliloquizes some on the girl with green eyes and how she affects the cardiac vibrations of the youth with grass-green optics. But it is enough to say that the coincidence of views found among the blue-eyed humans acts similarly in inducing agreements on the "better or worse" principle among those in this class, and in the same way among the "brownies."

The professor is a wise man. He knows his human field. He knows that people with similar qualifications are likely to enjoy similar diversions and that propinquity can be depended upon to do the rest. He shows how easy it is for this merry old world to keep on proving that like mates with like, but he makes not the least attempt to close the door on any really individualistic person who has original ideas and the inclination to rush blindly on to his fate regardless of the rule.

Commissioner Macfarland wants a name for the new preboat. Why not "Merri-mac"?

The National Council of Women has a committee on dress. One on redress for husbands left at home may report later.

One of the commanders of the Russian fleet is Rear Admiral Enquist, and the general inquest will come after the battle.

In Venezuela: Castro vaunteth himself; is puffed up; wanteth not his own.

They do say that Mr. Bristow's passing through Colon may end in a gloomy period for certain people.

While Platt plans to oust Odell, New York politics are still being handed up to Odell on a platter.

IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY

SCHLIPPENBACH, CASSINI'S GUEST

Russian Consul General on Visit From Chicago.

FASHION DAY AT THE RACES

Spanish Minister Bids Adieu—English Ambassador Going on Trip to London.

Count Cassini has as his guest at the Russian embassy, Baron Schlippenbach, the Russian consul general at Chicago, who is quite well known to Washington society through his frequent visits here.

Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador, will sail from New York on the Etruria, April 23, for a fortnight's visit in London. His business is of a purely diplomatic nature, relating to his high office here, and he will return to Washington in time to meet President Roosevelt when he reaches the city from his Western hunting trip.

Yesterday was fashion day at the Benning races, among the prominent people attending being Miss Roosevelt, who rode out with Ned McLean, in his big touring car; Baron Schlippenbach, Russian consul general at Chicago; the Danish Minister, Mr. Grip, who accompanied Mrs. Mary Scott Tamm and Miss Patten; Justice Harlan, Commander Gibbons, of the Dolphin; Mr. Deering, of the British embassy; Reed Knox, son of the Senator from Pennsylvania; Roger Wetmore, Senator Puffinberger, of the Venezuelan legation; Senor Arseniano, of the Panama legation; Mr. Hanahira, of the Japanese legation; Mr. and Mrs. Henry May, Miss May, the Counselor of the French embassy and Mme. des Portes de la Fosse, Mme. des Portes de la Fosse, Mrs. James G. Blaine, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Legare, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Miss Claggett, Miss Wetmore, Miss Elkins, Miss Bird, the guest of the French embassy and Mrs. Elkins; Mrs. Donner, Mr. Seckendorff, Mr. Huldekooper, and Mr. Siebert.

Miss Roosevelt wore to the races a gown of petunia red cloth, a hat trimmed with roses of the same shade, and a black chiffon boa.

The Financial Agent of the Russian Embassy and Mme. Wlenkin entertained at dinner last night.

The guests were the Belgian minister, Baron Moncheux; the Counselor of the French Embassy and Mme. des Portes de la Fosse, the Counselor of the German Embassy and Baroness von dem Busche, Baron Glska, charge d'affaires of the Austrian embassy; Senorita Walker-Martinez, daughter of the Chilean minister; Miss Deering, Miss Sherrell, M. Hansen, first secretary, and Colonel Raspopoff, military attaché of the Russian embassy.

The Rev. David Mills is a guest for two weeks of the Hotel de Ville, Atlantic City. Other Washingtonians at the same hotel are M. W. Moore and Mark W. Moore.

Spanish Minister Leaves.

Senor Ojeda, the Spanish minister, leaves Washington today, and will sail from New York Tuesday for Gibraltar.

Edwin V. Morgan, the newly appointed minister to Korea, leaves Washington today for his home in Aurora, N. Y. After a visit with his family, he will go to San Francisco, sailing for his new post May 3.

Mrs. Roosevelt received Brigadier General and Mrs. Theodore Bingham at the White House yesterday. These popular people who made Washington their home for some years are receiving a great deal of attention from their friends.

Major and Mrs. Hamilton Wallace, of New York, are making a visit in this city, en route for San Antonio.

Mr. and Mrs. Westinghouse have loaned their house for a meeting this afternoon of the George Washington Memorial Association. Mr. Justice Brewer will make the address of the afternoon.

Mrs. Edison Gallaudet and her small son, who have been the guests of ex-Senator Cockrell for several weeks, have been joined by Mr. Gallaudet, with whom they will return to Dayton, Ohio, on Thursday.

Miss Guff Barnett has gone to New York to visit Mr. and Mrs. Leon Barnett.

A. D. Prince and the Misses Prince have returned from Atlantic City.

Miss Jeannette Silver, who has been North for the past ten months, has returned to her home on New Hampshire avenue.

D. A. R. ISSUE PROGRAM FOR ANNUAL CONGRESS

The official program for the fourteenth annual congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution has been issued. The congress will assemble at 10 o'clock next Monday morning in Continental Hall, when dedicatory ceremonies of the building will be held. Mrs. Charles Warren Fairbanks, president general of the organization, will call the congress to order at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and will deliver her address of welcome.

At 8 o'clock on Monday night there will be a jubilee celebration in place of the reception which has prevailed in former years.

Two sessions will be held daily. The first will be called at 10 o'clock with an intermission for luncheon, and the second will convene at 8 o'clock in the evening.

On Tuesday an important feature will be the consideration of amendments to the by-laws and the nomination of national officers. Wednesday will be the big day, for new officers will be elected, and it is believed a strong fight will be put up by the two parties of the society. One represents Mrs. Fairbanks—called the "Silver" party—and another, which does not share the administrative views of the present president, general will put up another candidate. Should there be a deadlock the balloting will continue through Thursday and, though the society had agreed not to meet on Good Friday, it will do so should the congress not have reached a decision on the election of officers.

If an agreement is reached before Thursday morning the other sessions will be devoted exclusively to routine business. The congress will adjourn on Saturday night.



SENORITA JULIA VELOZ, Daughter of the Charge d'Affaires for Venezuela and Senor Veloz-Goiticoa, an Attractive Young Woman of the Diplomatic Set.

BRIDE OF APRIL LED TO ALTAR

Capt. James Wilson Weds Miss Margaret Stanton.

FAMILY SEE THE CEREMONY

Bride Gowned in White Chiffon, Organdy and Lace, With Veil of Tulle.

Miss Margaret Stanton Western, daughter of Mrs. Western and the late Capt. C. B. Western, Fourteenth Infantry, and granddaughter of Gen. T. H. Stanton, and Capt. James S. Wilson, U. S. A., son of the late Capt. James E. Wilson, Second Artillery, were married at noon today at the home of the bride, by Chaplain Pierce, U. S. A.

The ceremony was a quiet one, only the immediate families and intimate friends being present. The drawing rooms were a bower of apple blossoms, large bunches of myrtles, roses, narcissus, tulips, palms, and branches of spring foliage.

At the wedding breakfast, as at the ceremony, only the members of the family and a few outside friends were present.

Gown of the Bride.

The bride, who is one of the most attractive girls of the army set, wore a gown of white chiffon organdy and lace, and a long veil of tulle. Her bouquet was of sweet peas, and she carried an antique Spanish fan of ivory and gold, which belonged to the grandmother of Captain Wilson. Her going-away gown was of dark green silk, with a hat of the same color. Mrs. Western, mother of the bride, wore a gown of black lace.

Members of the family present were Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Wilson, Mrs. Stanton, grandmother of the bride and the widow of the late Gen. T. H. Stanton, who was once a paymaster general of the United States Army; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson, Mrs. Pickrell, an aunt of the bridegroom; Mrs. Kalk and her children; Josephine and Stanton, aunt and cousins of the bride, and Miss Minerva Du Bois, an intimate girl friend of the bride.

"Shower" of Gifts.

A pretty entertainment by the girls of the Army and Navy Club, composed of the daughters of officers of these two branches of the service, given Monday afternoon at the home of Miss DuBois, 2025 Sixteenth street, was a "shower" of bridal gifts from Miss Stanton's girl friends. The bride was led to a seat beneath a large pink wedding bell, from which were suspended pink ribbons, one for each girl. At a signal the ribbons were pulled, letting down upon the girl bride a shower of dainty packages done up in silk papers and tied with pink ribbons, each package containing a gift from a girl friend. The afternoon wound up with the usual afternoon tea service.

Among the girls who took part in the "shower" were Miss Dorothy Lord, Miss Florence Gillis, the Misses DuBois, Miss Hemp, Miss Baird, Miss Helen Koepfer, Miss Waring, Miss Long, and Miss Reed.

After a wedding journey Captain Wilson and his bride will go to his post at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., to which place he has been recently assigned.

Duckstein-Merriken.

Miss Pearl May Merriken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Merriken, 1929 Edmondson avenue, Baltimore, was married last evening to Henry E. Duckstein, of Washington.

The ceremony took place in West Baltimore Station Methodist Episcopal Church, Lafayette avenue and Gilmer street, and was performed by the pastor, the Rev. J. M. Holmes.

The bride wore a gown of white point d'esprit over white silk, trimmed with Irish lace, and carried a white prayer-book and a white veil. She was attended by Miss Annie Winifred Abel as bridesmaid, who was tastefully gowned in pink crepe de chine, trimmed with lace. Miss Selma Ward, a cousin of the bride, was flower girl, and wore a dress of white lace chiffon and carried sweet peas. Trevillian M. Rogers was best man.

The house was decorated with red and white roses and the church with potted palms. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Duckstein left for a trip to Philadelphia and Atlantic City. They will make their home in Washington.

DEWEY SAYS JAPAN NEEDS BATTLESHIPS

Would Insure National Safety, Declares Admiral.

TOGO'S DEFEAT SPELLS RUIN

Application of the Far East Situation to the Future of United States Navy.

"Whether Russia or Japan shall be the victor in the Far East will depend, in my opinion, upon the result of the battle about to occur between the fleets of Admiral Rogestvensky and Admiral Togo," said Admiral George Dewey, in speaking of the present struggle.

"If Togo is beaten," he continued, "all the money and the lives that have been spent by his country in Manchuria will go for nothing. The Russians, in command of the sea, would cut off communication between Japan and the mainland, and the Japanese army in Manchuria would be powerless."

Togo's Situation Paralleled.

Dewey has been following the naval campaign with intense interest, not only because its scene is that in which he gained his renowned victory, but because of lessons which it is furnishing and which will be of the greatest value in the development of the American fleet. During the war with Spain, Admiral Dewey was placed in much the same position as Togo.

"Think what Japan would give for two or three battleships at this critical moment," exclaimed the admiral. "Her national safety would be secure."

"This is a thing we should take to heart. We have done much in a military way to protect ourselves. What we must do now is the complete arming of ourselves upon the sea."

Needs of United States.

The admiral was asked to state how many battleships in his judgment would be required for the proper defense of the United States and its dependencies.

"The program which the general board would contemplate is the construction of forty-eight battleships, not all in a lump, but two or three a year," he replied. "The battleship is the main thing, all the rest are auxiliaries. It has been asserted it was the intention of the Navy Department to keep all these ships in commission and this would be an expensive operation. Only part of the fleet would be kept in commission and the others would be held in reserve."

"Today we have no reserve. Every battleship is in service or undergoing repairs."

Battleships Not Obsolete.

"It is a mistake to believe a battleship would be obsolete in a few years. Ships of this type should be good ships for fifty years to come."

"It has been estimated that a fleet of forty-eight battleships would cost the country annually \$200,000,000, but this estimate was based on the idea that all the ships would be in commission at the same time. This would not be the case unless we were engaged in war."

"I do not believe our expenses would be more than \$100,000,000 per annum. The country surely ought not to begrudge that amount for its protection. I do not believe we would have had the Spanish war if Spain had realized what a good navy we possessed."

TROUBLE THICKENS IN PENSION OFFICE

Commissioner Unearths New List of Irregularities.

UNDER THE OLD AGE ORDER

Careless or Designing Subordinates Put Rule in Force Before Date Fixed.

More trouble in the Pension Office! In addition to his discovery of the errors of the pension examiners who allowed the six "veterans" of "McLane's Pennsylvania Regiment" to get on the pension rolls when they did not belong there, Commissioner of Pensions Warner, it is understood, found certain of his subordinates guilty of an even graver offense in the improper application of pension order No. 75, the famous age-pension rule promulgated under authority of President Roosevelt more than a year ago.

This order was to have taken effect April 13, 1904, and by express term was not to be retroactive. Since coming into office Commissioner Warner has found that in several cases the order was put into effect before April 13, 1904, and this action without authority is now under investigation.

As yet the investigation has not proceeded far, but Mr. Warner is determined that it shall be thorough. All the records of pensions granted under this order are being looked up that the commissioner may know the extent of the errors that have been made.

As in the case of the ten examiners who let the "McLane" veterans go through, the head of the Pension Office does not know what he will do with the men involved in this new mix-up, nor will he be able to tell until he gets all the facts before him.

FUND TO BUY CLOTHING AND FUEL FOR POOR

Gen. George M. Sternberg, president of the Citizens' Relief Association, has acknowledged the receipt of a check for \$2,000 sent him by the District Commissioners.

This represents the annual interest on the centennial inaugural relief fund, and can only be used for the purchase of fuel and clothing for the relief of the poor of the District.

Charles F. Weller, general secretary of the association, asked permission to use part of the money for food, as well as fuel and clothing, holding that the omission of the word "food" from the Commissioners' communication must have been a typographical error.

Commissioner Macfarland, however, has replied by calling attention to the order issued by the District Commissioners. This order expressly states: "The annual interest thereon to be expended in the discretion of said Commissioners in the purchase of fuel and clothing for the poor of the District of Columbia."

GREEKS ATTACK ALBANIANS.

SALONICA, April 12.—A Greek band attacked and burned an Albanian village near Klissura on Friday, killing thirty and wounding and capturing many more.

DREAM OF THE RAREBIT FIEND

